
By: **Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request -
Departmental - Ethics, State Commission on)**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2003

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Regulated Lobbyists - Registration Fee - Increase**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the registration fee for certain lobbyists required to
4 register with the State Ethics Commission.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article - State Government
7 Section 15-703
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - State Government**

13 15-703.

14 (a) (1) At the times specified in subsection (d) of this section, each regulated
15 lobbyist shall register with the Ethics Commission on a form provided by the Ethics
16 Commission.

17 (2) A regulated lobbyist shall register separately for each entity that has
18 engaged the regulated lobbyist for lobbying purposes.

19 (b) Each registration form shall include, if applicable, the following
20 information:

21 (1) the regulated lobbyist's name and permanent address;

22 (2) the name and permanent address of each other regulated lobbyist
23 that will be lobbying on the regulated lobbyist's behalf;

24 (3) the name, address, and nature of business of the entity, if any, that
25 has engaged the regulated lobbyist for lobbying purposes, accompanied by a

1 statement indicating whether, because of the filing and reporting of the regulated
2 lobbyist, the compensating entity is exempt under § 15-701(c) of this subtitle; and

3 (4) the identification, by formal designation if known, of the matters on
4 which the regulated lobbyist expects to perform acts, or to engage another regulated
5 lobbyist to perform acts, that require registration under this subtitle.

6 (c) If applicable, each registration shall include the authorization required by
7 § 15-702 of this subtitle.

8 (d) (1) A regulated lobbyist who is not currently registered shall register
9 within 5 days after first performing an act that requires registration under this
10 subtitle.

11 (2) A regulated lobbyist shall file a new registration form on or before
12 November 1 of each year if, on that date, the regulated lobbyist is engaged in
13 lobbying.

14 (e) (1) Each registration form shall be accompanied by a fee of [~~\$20~~] \$50.

15 (2) The fee shall be credited to the Lobbyist Registration Fund
16 established under § 15-210 of this title.

17 (f) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each
18 registration shall terminate on the earlier of:

19 (i) the October 31 following the filing of the registration; or

20 (ii) an earlier termination date specified in an authorization filed
21 with respect to that registration under § 15-702 of this subtitle.

22 (2) A regulated lobbyist may terminate the registration before the date
23 specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection by:

24 (i) ceasing all activity that requires registration; and

25 (ii) after ceasing activity in accordance with item (i) of this
26 paragraph:

27 1. filing a notice of termination with the Ethics Commission;
28 and

29 2. filing all reports required by this subtitle within 30 days
30 after the filing of the notice of termination.

31 (3) (i) Subject to subparagraphs (ii) and (iii) of this paragraph, if a
32 regulated lobbyist is or becomes subject to regulation under this title as an official or
33 employee, the regulated lobbyist shall immediately terminate the registration in
34 accordance with paragraph (2) of this subsection.

1 (ii) After holding a public hearing, the Ethics Commission shall
2 adopt regulations establishing criteria under which a regulated lobbyist may serve on
3 a State board or commission.

4 (iii) The regulations adopted under subparagraph (ii) of this
5 paragraph shall:

6 1. establish a classification of State boards or commissions
7 on which regulated lobbyists may serve;

8 2. at a minimum authorize a regulated lobbyist to serve as
9 an appointed member of an advisory governmental body of limited duration; and

10 3. establish disclosure requirements for a regulated lobbyist
11 who serves on a board or commission under this paragraph, that are substantially
12 similar to disclosure requirements for members of the General Assembly.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
14 effect October 1, 2003.